



SACHI A. HAMAI
Interim Chief Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

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February 11, 2015

To: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich
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From: Sachi A. Hamai
Interim Chief Executive Officer

FOREIGN CONSULATE IDENTIFICATION CARD PROGRAM (JUNE 11, 2002 BOARD AGENDA, ITEM NO. 7) – ANNUAL REVIEW

Pursuant to Board Policy No. 3.050, this is to provide the Board with an annual review of the Foreign Consulate Identification Card Program.

BACKGROUND

The Program was established to allow County departments to accept a foreign consulate identification card (FCIC) as a form of valid identification. An FCIC is used only for identification purposes. It is not considered proof of legal residence nor does it extend any benefits to the holder which would require legal residency.

On June 11, 2002, the Board authorized the County of Los Angeles to accept the Matricula Consular, an FCIC issued by the Consulate of Mexico, as a form of identification. The FCIC for the Consulate of Argentina was accepted into the Program on August 1, 2003, and the FCIC for the Consulate of Korea was accepted into the Program on May 19, 2006. The Chief Executive Office was delegated authority to approve acceptance of a consulate's FCIC upon notification to the Board if the FCIC meets the criteria as set forth in the Policy.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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ANNUAL REVIEW

All County departments were surveyed to determine which departments were presented with FCICs in the course of their operations. Of 34 departments and agencies included in this report, 17 indicated they were presented with FCICs in 2014.

The attachment provides information on the services obtained by FCIC holders, the frequency with which FCICs were presented, and any operational issues reported by the departments presented with one or more of the eligible FCICs.

It should be noted that on January 1, 2013 California law SB 1064 went into effect, requiring that in certain child custody cases the Department of Children and Family Services must now accept valid FCICs from all consulates, not just the three with which the County has agreements.

The following are highlights from the departments' responses:

- **Animal Care and Control** – FCICs were presented for animal adoptions, impounds, redemptions, license sales and renewals, proof of animal ownership and writing checks.
- **Beaches and Harbors** – FCICs were presented as ID when people showed up for work in lieu of incarceration, or for mandated public services.
- **Child Support Services** – FCICs were presented for ID in request for case specific information, interviews, and making payments, as well as establishing cases and obtaining or enforcing orders.
- **Children and Family Services** – FCICs were used primarily for Live Scan and relative placement, approving homes for placement and for finger printing.
- **Community and Senior Services** – FCICs from Mexico were presented, mostly for food pantry pick-ups and taxi vouchers.
- **Community Development Commission/Housing Authority** – FCICs were presented for eligibility reviews for rental subsidy assistance.
- **Coroner/ Medical Examiner** – FCICs were presented to establish identification of decedents and to identify legal next of kin of decedents, and to claim personal properties of decedents.

- **Health Services** – FCICs were presented by patients seeking inpatient and outpatient healthcare services.
- **Mental Health** – FCICs were presented as a form of identification for financial screenings and mental health services.
- **Parks and Recreation** – FCICs were presented by community service volunteers and for youth sports enrollment.
- **Probation** – FCICs were presented during visits and family therapy sessions of detained minors.
- **Public Health** – Photo ID is not required to access services, but IDs are recommended for clients presenting at Community Health Services centers for clinical services. Only one of the 14 centers reported FCIC usage.
- **Public Library** – FCICs were presented to obtain library cards, with 1,125 cards issued to Mexican FCIC users, 28 cards to Argentine FCIC users, and 54 to Korean FCIC users.
- **Public Social Services** – FCICs were presented when applying for CalWORKS/Refugee, General Relief, CalFresh and Medi-Cal benefits.
- **Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk** – FCICs were presented for issuance of birth certificates, marriage licenses and check acceptance, with 12,732 presented in 2014.
- **Sheriff** – Numerous FCICs were presented as proof of identity for service calls; traffic and pedestrian stops; visiting inmates and general public contact. There are continuing problems with determining FCIC validity. An amendment was added to Board Policy allowing the Office of Protocol to work with the three consulates that have an agreement with the County to provide designated contacts for departments to access in real time. This new information was presented in a countywide training session on May 6, 2013.
- **Treasurer-Tax Collector** – FCICs were presented to process Immigration Clearance letters.

The following departments reported they were not presented with any of the eligible FCICs in 2014: Alternate Public Defender, Assessor, Auditor-Controller, Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors, Chief Executive Office, Chief Information Office,

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Consumer Affairs, County Counsel, District Attorney, Fire, Human Resources, Internal Services, Military and Veterans Affairs, Natural History Museum, Public Works, and Regional Planning.

Based on the operational issues identified by departments, the addition to Board Policy No. 3.050 in 2014 and the advent of California law SB 1064 this office held a countywide training for departments that wished to send staff on May 6, 2013. Given the number of departments that have indicated an interest in having an opportunity for refresher training, this office will continue to work with the consulates to coordinate training sessions and to strengthen the FCIC Program.

If you have any questions or require additional information, your staff may contact Lourdes Saab at 213-974-1307 (lsaab@ceo.lacounty.gov) or Glenda Wina at 213-974-1307 (gwina@ceo.lacounty.gov).

SAH:MR:LS
GW:ed

Attachment

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
All Department Heads

FOREIGN CONSULATE IDENTIFICATION CARD – ANNUAL SURVEY RESULTS 2014-2015

02/06/2015 (Final)

| DEPARTMENT | PRESENTED FCICS AS A FORM OF PHOTO ID? | | | IF SO, IN CONJUNCTION WITH WHAT SERVICES OR ACTIVITIES WERE FCICS PRESENTED? | IF YOUR DEPT HAS BEEN PRESENTED WITH FCICS, DOES YOUR DEPT. HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON THE AMOUNT OF USE? | PROBLEMS WITH ACCEPTING FCICS AS VALID PHOTO ID? | | | | ANY SUGGESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR CONCERNS REGARDING THE POLICY? | DOES YOUR DEPT. WANT TRAINING? | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----|
| | MEXICO | ARGENTINA | S. KOREA | | | MEXICO | ARGENTINA | S. KOREA | NONE | | YES | NO |
| Alternate Public Defender | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | N/A | | X |
| Animal Care & Control | X | | X | Animal Adoptions, impounds, redemptions, license sales and renewals. Also, to write checks or show proof of animal ownership. | Mexican IDs approximately 20% of total transactions at Baldwin Park and Downey Shelters, and approximately 60 transactions per year at the Carson Shelter. Korean IDs less than 10 transactions per year for all shelters. | | | | X | A poster or flyer with all the acceptable legal forms and types of foreign identifications would be very helpful. | X | |
| Assessor | | | | | None presented in 2014. | | | | X | Not at this time. | X | |
| Auditor-Controller | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | N/A | | X |
| Beaches and Harbors | X | | | Court referrals presented as ID when showing up for work in lieu of incarceration or for mandated public service. | No, but usage is not very frequent. | | | | X | Not at this time. | | X |
| Board of Supervisors Executive Office | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | No | X | |
| Chief Executive Office | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | No | | X |
| Chief Information Office | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | N/A | X | |
| Child Support Services | X | X | X | FCICs were presented for ID purposes in request for case specific info, interviews, requesting documentation and making payments. In addition, FCICs are presented in conjunction with establishing cases, obtaining orders, or enforcing orders. (For more details see survey form) | The total number varies for each of the 8 departmental divisions, but it is estimated that around 2,000 FCICs were presented. | | | | X | Training to identify counterfeit FCICs would be helpful. | X | |

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| | MEXICO | ARGENTINA | S. KOREA | | | MEXICO | ARGENTINA | S. KOREA | NONE | | YES | NO |
| Children and Family Services | X | X | X | Primarily for Live Scan/approving homes for placement and for finger printing. | There is minimum use as few (about 12 cases) were tracked by office live technicians. However, the ASFA Division reports tracking more than 1900 cases. | | | | X | The use of FCICs has been helpful in approving relative/non-related extended family members for placement. This should be extended to all countries (El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Chile, etc.). Also, it is challenging for some clients to obtain necessary FCICs as the process is often too costly and/or lengthy to complete. | X | |
| Community and Senior Services | X | | | Presented at Community & Sr. Service centers for the following services: 1) Food Pantry, 2) Taxi Vouchers (Antelope Valley only) | Does not currently maintain statistics on the amount of use | | | | X | No suggestions at this time. | X | |
| Community Development Commission | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | None at this time. | | X |
| Consumer Affairs | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | N/A | | X |
| Coroner/Medical Examiner | X | | X | Used in the deliverance of public services to confirm next of kin status. Used in the field to help establish ID of a decedent or persons assisting with identification. | At the public service counter: 10-15 per month (est.). In the field: 10-20 times per year. Only 1 Korean Consulate FCIC was presented in 2014. | | | | X | The department also uses Voter IDs from Mexico and the usual other common forms of ID such as driver's licenses from other countries. | X | |
| County Counsel | | | | N/A (all answers from 2013 survey) | N/A | | | | X | No | | X |
| District Attorney | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | None. | X | |
| Fire | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | N/A | | X |
| Health Services – Hospitals, CAN, EMS Agency | X | X | X | FCICs were presented by patients seeking inpatient and outpatient healthcare services | This information is not collected or tracked and there is no data regarding actual use. | | | | X | No concerns. | X | |
| Housing Authority – Assisted Housing Division (all answers are from 2013 survey) | X | | | FCICs are accepted as a form of identification when conducting eligibility reviews for rental subsidy assistance. | Do not track the amount of use. | | | | X | None at this time. | | X |
| Human Resources | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | N/A | X | |

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| | MEXICO | ARGENTINA | S. KOREA | | | MEXICO | ARGENTINA | S. KOREA | NONE | | YES | NO |
| Internal Services (answers from 2013 Survey) | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | | X | |
| Mental Health | X | | | FCICs were presented as a form of identification for financial screenings, mental health services and assessments, and identification purposes. | No. | | | | X | No. | X | |
| Military and Veterans Affairs | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | No. | | X |
| Natural History Museum | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | No suggestions at this time. | | X |
| Parks and Recreation | X | | | Community service volunteers; youth sports program enrollment (from 2013 Survey). | Approximately 40% of community services workers present the FCIC, according to field staff. Once or twice for other programming. (from 2013 Survey). | | | | X | No | X | |
| Probation | X | | X | FCICs are presented during visits and family therapy sessions of detained minors. | FCICs are presented infrequently. | | | | X | As a result of recent changes to California law illegal status individuals may apply for a driver's license. When individuals with FCICs are issued DMV licenses, an interface with DMV would be beneficial to departments. | X | |
| Public Health – Community Health Services | X | | | Only one health center out of 14 surveyed reported receiving FCICs as a form of photo I.D. when attending for clinical services. | Usage is not tracked but FCICs received are minimal. | | | | X | Not at this time. | | X |

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| | MEXICO | ARGENTINA | S. KOREA | | | MEXICO | ARGENTINA | S. KOREA | NONE | | YES | NO |
| Public Library | X | X | X | FCICs are acceptable forms of ID in the issuance of library cards to customers. | <p>Mexican Consulate ID: Since July 2002, the Public Library issued library cards to 15,193 people who presented the Mexican Consulate I.D. card. The Library issued 1,125 cards last fiscal year. Customers with these cards borrowed 81,293 items last fiscal year.</p> <p>Argentine Consulate ID: Since August 2003, the Public Library issued library cards to 28 people who presented the Argentine Consulate I.D. card. The Library issued 2 new library cards last fiscal year. Customers with these library cards borrowed 87 items last fiscal year.</p> <p>Korean Consulate ID: Since July 2008, the Public Library issued a library card to 54 people who presented the Korean Consulate I.D. The Library issued 2 new library cards last fiscal year. Customers with these library cards borrowed 245 items last fiscal year.</p> | | | | X | No. | | X |
| Public Social Services | X | X | X | When submitting applications for CalWORKs/Refugee, General Relief, CalFresh and Medi-Cal benefits. Possession of an FCIC does not entitle the bearer to services for which he/she would otherwise be ineligible. | No. | | | | X | It would be beneficial if other countries with a significant immigrant community (e.g. Guatemala, El Salvador) participate in this effort. | X | |
| Public Works | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | N/A | | X |
| Regional Planning | | | | N/A | N/A | | | | X | N/A | | X |
| Registrar-Recorder/ County Clerk | X | X | X | Birth certificates, Marriage Licenses, Check acceptance, Fictitious Business Names. | 12,732 to date. | | | | X | No. | | X |

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| | MEXICO | ARGENTINA | S. KOREA | | | MEXICO | ARGENTINA | S. KOREA | NONE | | YES | NO |
| Sheriff | X | X | X | FCICs have been presented during incidents where a call for service was requested and/or required, traffic stops, pedestrian stops, visiting of inmates and general public contact. | The department has been presented with a substantial number of FCICs, but the exact number is impossible to calculate as not all contacts contain what type of identification was presented. FCICs from all 3 countries have been presented in unknown numbers. | X | X | X | | As with most forms of ID other than CA ID cards and drivers' licenses, it is difficult to determine the validity and authenticity. The department has distributed a department newsletter that describes the FCICs to assist personnel with recognizing authentic FCICs. Even so, recognition of an authentic FCIC can be difficult for law enforcement officers due to infrequent encounters with the cards. The use of a special device to detect the hidden security features makes it harder to authenticate the cards, as the device is not always available when needed. Additionally, any changes to these cards need to be brought to the Department's attention immediately so that this information may be disseminated to relevant personnel. Providing access to a consulate's database ID system would give deputy personnel the ability to verify FCICs in the same manner as California IDs and drivers' licenses are validated. (Note: this may not be possible because of other countries' privacy laws.) | X | |
| Treasurer-Tax Collector | X | | | To process immigration clearance letters. | No | | | | X | No. | X | |